

S/N 10/656,070

PATENT

**In the Claims**

The following listing of the claims replaces all previous listings.

Please cancel claims 27-32, 36-45, 51, 54, and 59.

Please amend claims 48, 50, and 53 as follows.

1.-32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) A gas burner for a fireplace, comprising:  
a burner panel defining a top surface and a bottom surface, wherein the burner panel is molded to form at least one preformed log;  
a bottom burner member coupled to the burner panel;  
wherein the burner panel defines at least one aperture to provide a combustible gas to the top surface of the burner panel;  
wherein the bottom surface of the burner panel and bottom member define at least one cavity;  
wherein the at least one preformed log defines at least a portion of the at least one cavity;  
wherein the at least one cavity extends above at least a portion of the top surface of the burner panel; and  
wherein the burner panel substantially comprises a compression molded material.

34. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 33, wherein bottom surface of the burner panel defines two or more cavities.

35. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 33, wherein the burner panel defines a plurality of apertures to provide a gas/air mixture to the top surface of the burner panel.

36.-45. (Canceled)

46. (Previously Presented) A gas burner for a fireplace, comprising:  
a burner panel defining a top surface and a bottom surface, wherein the top surface has a raised upper portion and a lower portion;

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a bottom burner member coupled to the burner panel;  
wherein the burner panel defines at least one aperture to provide a combustible gas to the top surface of the burner panel;  
wherein the bottom surface of the burner panel and the bottom burner panel together define at least one cavity;  
wherein the at least one cavity extends above the lower portion of the top surface of the burner panel; and  
wherein the raised upper portion of the top surface extends above the lower portion.

47. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 46, wherein the burner panel defines a plurality of apertures to provide a combustible gas to the top surface of the burner panel.

48. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a gas burner for use in a fireplace, comprising:

forming a compression molded burner panel comprising an inorganic fiber;  
forming at least one cavity in a bottom surface of the burner panel, wherein the at least one cavity extends above at least a portion of a top surface of the burner panel; and  
coupling a bottom burner member to the burner panel.

49. (Canceled)

50. (Currently Amended) The gas burner method of claim 48, wherein the ~~compression molded material~~ burner panel further comprises a binder.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the step of forming the compression molded burner panel comprises the step of forming a prefabricated log in at least a portion of the burner panel.

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53. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a panel for use in a gas fireplace burner, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a mold;

providing an inorganic fiber to the mold;

compressing the inorganic fiber within the mold;

forming at least one cavity in a bottom surface of the panel, wherein the at least one cavity extends above at least a portion of a top surface of the panel; and

heating the mold during compression.

54. (Canceled)

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of providing the inorganic fiber to the mold further comprises the step of forming a prefabricated log in at least a portion of the panel.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of providing the inorganic fiber to the mold comprises providing the inorganic fiber to a mold cavity.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of providing a mold comprises providing a male die and a female die, the male die and the female die defining a mold cavity.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, further comprising the step of providing a binder to the mold.

59. (Canceled)